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DRAFTED BY ARA/LA:PJDE VOS:MJT 2/22/74 EXT. 29226 APPROVED BY ARA/LA:PJDE VOS S/S-O:G.TWOHIE

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O 221729Z FEB 74 ZFF4 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 103

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY JACK B. KUBISCH

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC FROM CARACAS 21 FEB 74:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 1588

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ENRG VE

SUBJECT: CANDIDATES FOR TOP OIL POSTS

AREVALO REYES, DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATION OF MINISTRY OF MINES AND HYDROCARBONS, WHO IS HIGHEST RANKING OFFICIAL OF THAT MINISTRY WHO IS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH AD PARTY, CONFIRMED TO PETROLEUM ATTACHE TODAY THAT VALENTIN HERNANDEZ IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO BECOME MINISTER OF MINES AND HYDROCARBONS. REYES SAID THAT THE MAIN THING THAT HAS HELD UP ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE APPOINTMENT IS THAT HERNANDEZ IS NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH PROPOSAL TO NAME ARTURO HERNANDEZ-GRISANTI AS HEAD OF STATE OIL COMPANY (CVP) WITH RANK OF CABINET MINISTER. HERNANDEZ REASONS, PROBABLY QUITE CORRECTLY, THAT HE WOULD BE IN DANGER OF BEING OVERSHADOWED BY HERNANDEZ-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GRISANTI WHO IS EXTREMELY WELL KNOWN AD POLITICIAN AND

WAS CONSIDERED TO BE AD'S OIL EXPERT IN LAST CONGRESS. REYES THOUGHT IT LIKELY THAT HERNANDEZ-GRISANTI, WHOSE APTITUDES ARE MORE USEFUL IN CONGRESS THAN IN EXECUTIVE BRANCH, WOULD BECOME HEAD OF COMMITTEE OF MINES AND HYDROCARBONS OF CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES. CLEARLY, HERNANDEZ-GRISANTI WOULD PREFER TO BECOME MINISTER BUT THIS DOES NOT SEEM TO BE IN THE CARDS AT THIS TIME. MCCLINTOCK UNQUOTE RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: CABINET, TOSEC 103, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 22 FEB 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE035607

Document Number: 1974STATE035607
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PJDE VOS:MJT Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: n/a From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740215/aaaaantj.tel

Line Count: 69 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ORIGIN ARA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: MorefiRH Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 SEP 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <18-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CANDIDATES FOR TOP OIL POSTS AREVALO REYES, DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATION OF MINISTRY OF MINES TAGS: ENRG, VE, (HERNANDEZ, VALENTINE)

To: MEXICO

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005